Private Security Regulations and Equipment

The role of a security guard and a police officer differ significantly. A security guard is paid only to protect property and people of the business that employs him/her, whereas, a police officer is duty-bound to protect all people and property, and is also authorised to enforce the laws of the land. Security guards are trained to operate and repair security systems, communicate with law enforcement agencies, and monitor and watch locations and property for threats.

Session 1: Cooperation with Police and Other Organisations

In this Session, you will learn about the various rules and regulations that an Unarmed Security Guard must know to seek police cooperation or cooperate with the police and other organisations. Though the roles and responsibilities of private security guards and the police are different, cooperation between the two is a must for preventing crime and apprehending miscreants. An understanding of evidence is required for the Unarmed Security Guard to cooperate in a police-led investigation. This is so because courts decide whether a person is innocent or guilty on the basis of evidence.

Private security guard vs police officer

The duty of police officers is to enforce the law, and maintain public order and peace. In case of a violation, the police are required to catch hold of the offender. For maintaining law and order, and ensuring quick response to a crime, the police have set up a 'Police Control Room' (PCR), where anyone can inform the police about a crime or an untoward incident. The vehicle used by the police to reach the place of an incident is called a 'PCR van'.

Security guards are responsible for protecting specific people and property. Their responsibilities may include some of the functions as performed by the police, such as observing and monitoring people, and preventing theft to name a few. But these would not include offences, which require the arrest of a person.

The police alone can enforce the law of the State. A security guard cannot arrest a person, even if the person caught is a criminal. The duty of a security guard is to inform the closest police station because only the police can make an arrest. The security guard can temporarily detain the person till the police arrive.

Arrest

An arrest is made in connection with an offence — either civil or criminal. An arrest is an act of depriving people of their liberty, usually, in relation to an investigation or prevention of a crime. Arrest is purely a police matter. Section 41 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) gives a constable in uniform the power to arrest a person without a warrant, if s/he reasonably suspects that the person has committed a 'cognisable offence'. A private security guard or a common citizen does not enjoy such power. In a cognisable offence, the police can take cognisance of the offence on their own, i.e., they need not wait for the court orders to arrest a person. In a 'non-cognisable offence', the police cannot arrest a person without the court orders, i.e., a warrant.

Rules to be followed by security staff during arrest or detention

(i) A male security guard must never be alone with a female prisoner.



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- (ii) A female security guard must stay with the female prisoner.
- (iii) Similarly, a male prisoner must never be left alone with a female security guard.
- (iv) A security guard does not have the right to search a person or the baggage of someone detained unless there is reasonable ground to believe that the detainee has a weapon, which s/he may use to injure self or others.

Arrest by private person (Section 43 of CrPC)

Any private person may arrest or cause the arrest of a person, who in her/his presence commits a non-bailable cognisable offence, or any proclaimed offender, and may hand her/him over to the police at the earliest for reasons given as follows:

- (i) Such a person comes under the provision of Section 41 (when the police may arrest without a warrant).
- (ii) Such a person has committed a non-cognisable offence and refuses to give her/his name and residence or provides false information.

This provision can be invoked only if the police are convinced that the person was acting with a criminal intent. An arrest may be carried out as per the guidelines mentioned in Section 43 of the CrPC. As far as possible, private security staff must facilitate the arrests to be made by the police. In an event where they themselves have to do this, it must be done tactfully and with caution, ensuring that the evidence is meticulously collected, preserved and handed over to the police.

Main features of civil law

In India, the civil law comprises the laws formed and followed at the Federal and State levels, and the rulings made from time-to-time in the country by the court of law. The scope and ambit of civil law encompasses matters and issues related to the following:

- (i) real estate law
- (ii) business or commercial law
- (iii) education law

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- (iv) consumer law
- (v) tax law
- (vi) entertainment law
- (vii) contract law
- (viii) administrative law
 - (ix) ports law

Main features of criminal law

The purpose of a criminal law is to deter and punish a criminal. The cases under it are brought by the State. The punishment involves fine(s) and imprisonment. An accused under a criminal law is convicted only when the guilt is proven beyond reasonable doubt. The types of offences include common assault, bodily harm, violence, etc.

First Information Report (FIR)

A First Information Report (FIR) is a written document of information that reaches the police first. It is filed by the police when a person is a victim of a cognisable offence, i.e., an offence for which the police can take action without a prior court approval (warrant). Section 154 of the CrPC, 1973 defines what amounts to first information. It is to be registered by an Inspector or a Station House Officer (SHO) at a police station on the receipt of a complaint from any individual about any untoward incident, accident or offence. In many cities, inspectors are the SHOs. In rural areas, where an inspector is the in-charge of a police circle (consisting of more than one police station), the person is also referred to as a 'Circle Inspector'. All major incidents, accidents, thefts and offences must, normally, be reported to the civil police. Private security personnel must take the permission of the management of a company or an organisation, where they are employed, before lodging a report with the civil police.

Objectives of FIR

The primary objective of an FIR is to make a complaint to the police to set a criminal law in motion. The secondary, though equally important objective, is to obtain early information of an alleged criminal activity.

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Who can lodge an FIR?

An FIR can be lodged by:

- (i) the complainant, who is an aggrieved person.
- (ii) somebody on behalf of the complainant.
- (iii) a person who is aware of the offence an eyewitness or a hearsay (what a person has heard)
- (iv) the accused.
- (v) the SHO.
- (vi) the magistrate.
- (vii) a doctor.

Who can write an FIR?

An FIR must always be written by the officer in-charge of a police station. The SHO is the officer in-charge of the police station.

Essentials of an FIR

The following points must be covered while recording the FIR:

- (i) Who committed the crime?
- (ii) Against whom was the act or crime committed?
- (iii) When (time) was the crime committed?
- (iv) Where did the crime take place?
- (v) What was the motive of the crime?
- (vi) What was taken away?
- (vii) What traces were left by the accused?

Evidence

It refers to the facts or information, which are used to test whether a particular belief or claim is true. An Unarmed Security Guard may be the first to arrive at a crime scene and it will be her/his responsibility to secure the area till the police take charge of the situation. No one must be allowed in the area and nothing must be touched before the police arrive. This is important as anything found at the scene can be used as evidence in court and will help prove the truth. There are many types of evidence.

Direct evidence

If the witness has seen a theft taking place, s/he can give a direct evidence. For instance, if the witness tells

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the police or court that s/he saw the accused stealing something from the almirah, the witness is giving a direct evidence. Direct evidence is the testimony that the witness gives in court about something directly experienced.

Circumstantial evidence

Information provided in circumstantial evidence is related to the facts of a case. However, it does not provide any information regarding the crime, which has been experienced by a witness. For example, if the witness has seen the accused leaving a building with something in hand late in the night or the same day when the theft took place, this evidence will be 'circumstantial'. If a link from the facts to the circumstantial evidence is established, it can help increase the reliability of the evidence. Often indirect and direct evidence add up to prove the guilt of the accused.

Hearsay evidence

When a person testifies in court saying what s/he has heard about someone or something related to a crime, this is 'hearsay evidence'. For example, it would be hearsay evidence if a woman told you that the person who stole a certain car was wearing a green cap and you testified that the accused matched the woman's description of the thief. This is an example of hearsay evidence, which is not considered reliable in courts.

Documentary evidence

Notebooks, photographs, sound recordings, films, videotapes and computer records are considered as 'documentary evidence'. Experts examine the quality and authenticity of the document submitted. For example, an unclear photograph or video is considered a less reliable evidence.

Physical evidence

Objects, such as a knife or a piece of torn cloth, which are shown in the court of law, are 'physical evidence'. It is important for the witness to explain to the court



where it was found, how it was found and where it was kept since being found. For example, a mobile phone with the name of the accused on it was found at the scene of an assault. The witness will have to explain exactly where it was found, how it was found and how it has been kept safe. Physical evidence by itself is not reliable, as it is only circumstantial. For example, just because a wallet belongs to the accused, it does not prove that the accused has committed the assault. If the physical evidence is used with a direct evidence, such as the witness says s/he saw the accused throwing the mobile phone at the victim, then the reliability of the evidence is higher.



Fig. 2.1: Types of evidence

Trace evidence

Physical evidence at times is too little or too small to be visible to a common person. Such evidence is called 'trace evidence', for example, fingerprints in and around the area where a crime has taken place. It could also be physical objects like a strand of hair, a small piece of cloth, etc. Trace evidence is, usually, collected or photographed by forensic experts. Quality trace evidence can be obtained only when the crime scene is secured and entry to the area is restricted as soon as possible.

Securing a crime scene

When a person engages in an act, in which s/he modifies, hides, falsifies or destroys evidence with the

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intent to interfere with the investigation, it is called 'tampering with the evidence'. It is done to coverup a crime. To prevent tampering of evidence, avoid destruction of evidence or alteration of the crime scene, the scene needs to be secured. While a security guard is waiting for the police, s/he must do the following:

- (i) ensure that no one is able to change the original scene or destroy evidence(s)
- (ii) set up a barrier with tape or keep the door closed
- (iii) provide medical help to anyone who needs it
- (iv) note down the time of her/his arrival
- (v) note down anything that is seen, heard or smelt
- (vi) draw a diagram of the crime scene
- (vii) take down the details of witnesses and information regarding the incident
- (viii) ensure that people do not leave the site until the police arrive
 - (ix) include a description of suspicious people seen nearby
 - (x) protect trace evidence, such as footprints, blood drops, etc.
 - (xi) use a plastic sheet to cover the evidence, if it is raining
- (xii) make a note of the changes made to the original scene

On the arrival of the police, the Unarmed Security Guard must do the following:

- (i) Get to know the police officer, who is the in-charge, and handover the responsibility for the scene to that person. This is important because the court will need proof that there was no break in the chain of people in-charge of guarding the evidence.
- (ii) Make a note of the name of the person to whom the responsibility was handed over and the time when the charge was handed over.
- (iii) If the police seek assistance, provide whatsoever assistance is possible as an Unarmed Security Guard.



Testifying in courts

Testifying in the court of law refers to the evidence being given in court. The Unarmed Security Guard might be called to the court to testify before the judge with regard to what s/he saw on reaching the crime scene. The security guard will receive an order from the court, directing her/him to testify before the court. The court order will specify the date and time when s/he must be present in the court to testify. The security guard can face an imprisonment in case s/he fails to abide by the order.

If you present a professional image before the court, the reliability of the evidence in the court will improve. Here are certain things that the security guard must do before appearing in court.

- (i) Review all notes. Be sure of the time, date and location of the crime scene.
- (ii) Revise the entire sequence of events and be sure of the exact details.
- (iii) Prepare well for what is specifically demanded in the testimony and plan for the questions, which might be asked by lawyers.
- (iv) Present self in uniform.
- (v) Arrive early, in case the prosecutor has asked for clarifying doubts, if any.

Here are certain things that the security guard must follow once inside the court:

- (i) Stand or sit straight in the court.
- (ii) When lawyers ask questions, look at them but direct answers to the judge.
- (iii) Speak loudly and slowly so that everyone can hear.
- (iv) Do not answer more than the question asked.
- (v) Unless specifically asked, never give an opinion. Tell what is known, not what is felt. If an opinion is asked, for example, 'Was the accused under the influence of alcohol?', ask if the court is demanding an opinion. If you get an affirmative reply, only then state the opinion.

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- (vi) If either of the lawyers object to a question being asked by the other, stop. Do not reply till the court decides on that objection
- (vii) State ignorance if unaware of the answer to a question. Do not use phrases like 'I guess' or 'I think', etc.
- (viii) Refer to the notes only if necessary and allowed by the judge. Do this only to recollect specific details like the number of people present at the crime scene.
 - (ix) Treat both the prosecutor and defence lawyers with respect.
 - (x) Do not take any question personally. A neutral facial expression is expected even if one feels annoyed by the questions.
 - (xi) Do not leave the court until the judge excuses.

Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act (PSARA), 2005

The Constitution of India is the fundamental 'law of the land'. Both the Central and the State governments are duty-bound to govern the country as per the Constitution. Just as there are rules to be followed by students and teachers for the effective functioning of a school, similarly the government frames laws for governing the country effectively. These laws are often promulgated in the form of 'Acts'. Acts are rules, standards, procedures or guidelines that have been promulgated by a legislative body like Parliament for the effective governance of the country. Acts must never contradict the Constitution.

As explained in the beginning of this Session, the roles and responsibilities of the Unarmed Security Guard and a police officer are quite different. Now, let us look at the various aspects of the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act (PSARA), 2005, which regulates the business of security service in India.

In order to regulate security agencies, the Government of India enacted the PSARA in 2005. While the Act lays down a larger framework, rules for the implementation of the Act are required to be formulated and implemented by the State governments.



The PSARA 2005 defines 'private security' as, "security provided by a person, other than a public servant, to protect or guard any person or property or both and includes provision of armoured car service." The Act covers essential rules to be followed by the private security industry. Some of the rules are as follows:

Licence

No person shall run a private security agency without a licence issued as per the Act.

Uniform

The uniform of a private security guard needs to be unique and must not resemble the one worn by the Army, Navy or Air Force personnel. The uniform must also include the following:

- (i) an arm badge distinguishing the agency
- (ii) chest badge indicating designation
- (iii) whistle attached to the whistle cord, to be kept in the left pocket
- (iv) shoes with laces
- (v) a unique mark of the agency that may be exhibited on the headgear

Training

The Act specifies the hours of training. As per the PSARA 2005, it shall be for "a minimum of 100 hours of classroom instruction and 60 hours of field training." The details of all individuals forming the agency need to be provided no latter than 15 days after receiving the licence to the State government.

Physical standards

The Act lays down the standards of physical fitness for security guards. All persons employed are required to meet the basic minimum standard. According to the PSARA 2005, the requirements for private security guards are as follows:

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- (i) Height: 160 cm for males and 150 cm for females
- (ii) Weight: according to standard table of height and weight
- (iii) Chest: 80 cm with an expansion of 4 cm (there is no minimum requirement for females)
- (iv) Eye sight
 - (a) Far sight vision: 6/6
 - (b) Near vision: 0.6/0.6 with or without correction
 - (c) No colour blindness
 - (d) Must be able to identify and distinguish colour display and security equipment
 - (e) read the display
- (v) No knock knee and flat foot and must be able to run 1 km in 6 minutes
- (vi) No hearing defect
- (vii) Dexterity and strength to perform searches, handle objects and use force for restraining an individual when required
- (viii) Must be free from evidence of any contagious and infectious disease.

Photo identity cards

Security companies are required to provide photo identity cards to its security staff as prescribed.

Assistance to police

The Act lays down the responsibility of security companies to assist the police in the investigation, pertaining to their areas of responsibilities, and violation of laws in their premises through the management.

Connected labour laws

The Act lists various labour laws that are required to be followed by security companies or organisations, who seek licence under the Act, which ensures that their rights are protected.

Documentation

Section 15(1) of the PSARA 2005 lays down that the security agency shall maintain register(s) containing the following information:



- (i) name and addresses of the persons managing the private security agency
- (ii) name, addresses, photographs and salaries of the security staff working in the agency
- (iii) name and addresses of the persons or companies to whom the agency provides security services

Ranks and badges in Indian Army, Navy and Air Force

A Private Security Guard has to cooperate with officers belonging to different security organisations. In cases, involving terrorist attacks or major disasters, the guard might even have to cooperate with the military. Knowledge of the various ranks within the police and military, and their recognition through badges worn by the officers helps in interacting and cooperating with them.

Table 2.1: Ranks in the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force

S. No.	Army	Navy	Air Force
1.	Field Marshal	Admiral of the Fleet	Marshal of Air Force
2.	General	Admiral	Air Chief Marshal
3.	Lieutenant General	Vice Admiral	Air Marshal
4.	Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshal
5.	Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore
6.	Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
7.	Lieutenant Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander
8.	Major	Lieutenant Commander	Squadron Leader
9.	Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant
10.	Lieutenant	Sub-lieutenant	Flying Officer

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Fig. 2.2: Insignia of Field Marshal

Let us take a look at the ranks and the corresponding badges in detail.

Indian Army

The armed forces of a nation have a vital role in mitigating external threats. The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army is the President of India, while the Chief of the Army Staff, who is in the rank of a General, is the functional head of the Army. One can join the Army after school or graduation. In case of a Permanent Commission, one has a career in the Army till one retires. Short Service Commission (SSC) gives one the chance of serving as a Commissioned Officer for a period of 10 years. At the end of this period, one has two options, either elect for a Permanent Commission or opt out. The rank of a Field Marshal is often honorary in India.

Ranks and insignia of Group 'A' or Class-I (gazetted) officers

Officers are commissioned as Lieutenants and can rise to the level of the Chief of the Army Staff. The rank and insignia (rank badges) are as follows:

Table 2.2: Ranks and insignia of Group A or Class-I (gazetted) officers in the Indian Army

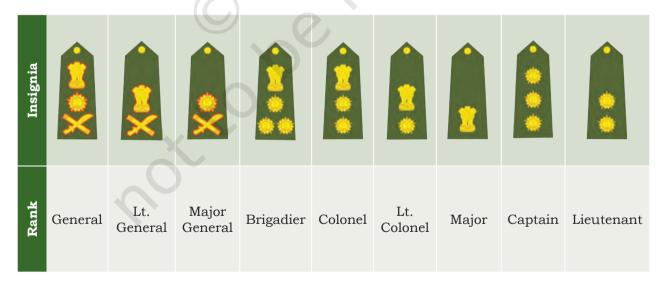




Table 2.3: Ranks and insignia of Group B or Class-II (gazetted)

— Junior Commissioned Officers of the Indian Army

Rank	Insignia
Subedar/ Risaldar Major	*
Subedar/ Risaldar*	
Naib Subedar/ Naib Risaldar	
Regimental Havildar Major	
Regimental Quarter Master Havildar	
Company Havildar Major/ Squadron Daffadar Major	2 1
Company Quarter Master Havildar/Squadron Quarter Master Daffadar*	
Havildar / Daffadar*	
Naik / Lance Daffadar	
Lance Naik / Acting Lance Daffadar	
Sepoy / Sowar*	
*Risaldar, Daffadar and Sowar are equivalent ranks in Corps. Ranks down to Naib Subedar or Risaldar are Go	

Commissioned) and others are non-commissioned ranks.

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Indian Air Force

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is duty-bound to safeguard the Indian territory and national interests from all threats, in conjunction with the other branches of the armed forces, by defending the Indian airspace. The President of India serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the IAF. The Chief of the Air Staff, in the rank of an Air Chief Marshal (ACM), is a four-star commander and commands the Air Force.

Former Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh, who is one of the greatest pilots the world has ever seen, has been conferred with the rank of Field Marshal of the Air Force. He was the first Air Chief Marshal of India.

Air Force ranks

The air force uses broad and narrow sleeve stripe combinations for officer ranks and combinations of Chevrons, Lion of Sarnath (National Emblem), and wing symbols for enlisted ranks.

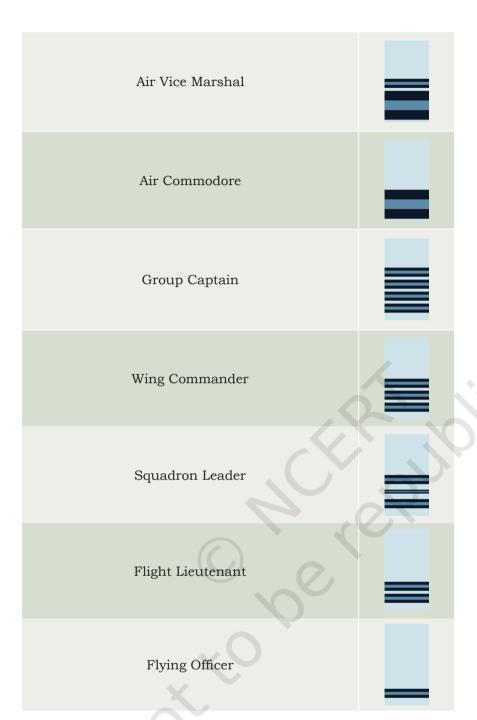
Officer ranks

Officers are commissioned as Flying Officers and can rise to be Air Chief Marshal, who is a four-star General. A Group Captain is of the same rank as that of a Colonel, and Air Commodores are equivalent to Brigadiers. Similarly, Air Vice Marshals and Air Marshals are equivalent to Major Generals and Lieutenant Generals, respectively.

Table 2.4: Insignia of ranks in the Indian Air Force

0	Rank	Insignia
	Air Chief Marshal	
	Air Marshal	





Persons Below Officer Ranks (PBOR)

Persons Below Officer Ranks, normally, join the Air Force as Aircraftsmen and rise to the rank of Master Warrant Officer, who is the seniormost PBOR. However, a large number is also recruited directly as Junior Warrant Officers. Ranks above Junior Warrant Officer are Junior Commissioned Officers.

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Indian Navy

The Indian Navy is the naval branch of the armed forces of India. The President of India serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy. The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), in the rank of Admiral, commands the Navy. In conjunction with other armed forces of the Union, Navy acts to deter or defeat threats or aggression against the territory, people or maritime interests of India, both in war and peace. The Navy has the following three commands, each under the control of a Flag.

- (i) Western Naval Command (Headquarters at Mumbai).
- (ii) Eastern Naval Command (Headquarters at Visakhapatnam)
- (iii) Southern Naval Command (Headquarters at Kochi)

Officer rank

Officers are commissioned as Sub Lieutenant and can rise to the level of an Admiral, who is a four-star General. A Captain of the Navy is of the same rank as that of a Colonel, and Commodores are equivalent to Brigadiers. Similarly, Rear Admirals and Vice Admirals are equivalent to Major Generals and Lieutenant Generals, respectively. The equivalent of Field Marshal in the Navy is Admiral Fleet.

Table 2.5: Insignia and ranks of the Indian Navy

Rank	Insignia
Admiral of the Fleet	
Admiral	
Vice Admiral	





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Persons Below Officer Rank (PBOR)

Persons Below Officer Ranks (PBOR), normally, join the Navy as Seaman–II and rise to the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer–I, who is the seniormost PBOR. However, a large number is also recruited directly as Chief Petty Officers. Ranks above Chief Petty Officer are Junior Commissioned Officers.

Table 2.6: Petty Officer and below are non-commissioned officers in the Indian Navy

Ra	nk	Insignia
Master Chief	Petty Officer I	
Master Chief l	Petty Officer II	
Chief Pet	ty Officer	
Petty (Officer	
Leading	Seaman	
Sean	nan-I	No insignia
Seam	an-II	No insignia



Ranks in the police

Ranks and insignia of gazetted police officers

Gazetted officers include all Indian Police Service (IPS) officers, who belong to the All India Services and all State police services officers of and above the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) or Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP).

Table 2.7: Insignia of various ranks in the police (gazetted)

Rank	Insignia
Commissioner of Police (State) or Director General of Police	
Joint Commissioner of Police or Inspector General of Police	*
Additional Commissioner of Police or Deputy Inspector General of Police	意大大
Deputy Commissioner of Police or Senior Superintendent of Police	意大大
Deputy Commissioner of Police or Superintendent of Police	富

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Table 2.8: Insignia of various ranks in the police (non-gazetted)

Rank		Insignia
Inspector	Three stars, and blue and red ribbon	***
Sub-Inspector	Two stars, and blue and red ribbon	*



Assistant Sub-Inspector

One star, and blue and red ribbon

Head Constable

Three red stripes

Senior Constable

Two red stripes

Police Constable

——

Practical Exercises

Activity 1

Imagine you are posted as an Unarmed Security Guard for a residential complex. You have just begun your shift. At 7 am, you receive a call from Dheeraj, the neighbour of Manoj, that he has been found murdered at his apartment. Describe the steps in sequence that you will take as a security guard, after receiving the phone call.

Activity 2

Visit a local police station in a group, led by your teacher. Prior to the visit, make a list of questions that would improve your understanding on the role of the police as per the law in investigating crimes (including the process of filing an FIR), and maintaining law and order. Try to find out the kind of cooperation that the police expect from an Unarmed Security Guard in preventing and investigating crimes.

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Check Your Progress

A.	Fil	ill in the Blanks		
	1.	Private Agencies Act regulates the business of security service in India.		
	2.	When you testify in court telling what you heard about someone or something related to a crime, this is evidence.		
	3.	The Unarmed Security Guard of a private security agency protects people and property while police officers protect people and property, and the latter enforce the law.		
В.	Μυ	altiple Choice Questions		
	1.	Dinesh has been accused of stealing a gold chain from a shopping mall. The security guard found him throwing something from the mall's window immediately after an alarm was raised. This is a (a) circumstantial evidence (b) hearsay evidence (c) direct evidence (d) physical evidence		
	2.	· / · · ·		
	3.	While testifying in court, (a) you can always give your opinion (b) you can never give your opinion, you can only give facts (c) you can give your opinion after seeking permission of the judge (d) None of the above		
C.	Sh	ort Answer Questions		
	1.	What are the different kinds of evidence used in the court of law? Which evidence is considered less reliable compared to the others? Does it mean that less reliable evidence need not be gathered? If not, why?		
	2.	Do you think cooperation between the police and private security guards is essential? If yes, why?		



3. If a police officer is legally empowered not only to observe, deter and report incidents but also to enforce the rule of law and arrest and detain individuals, do you think there is a need for having an Unarmed Security Guard? If yes, why?

What have you learnt?

On the completion of this Session, you will be able to:

- state the difference between the police and a private security guard.
- identify the role of a security guard in a police-led investigation.
- describe the various kinds of evidence.
- explain how to testify in courts.
- list the basic legal provisions of the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005.
- recognise ranks and respective badges in military and police.

